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ABSTRACT

This book is a behind-the-scenes look at American higher education from the perspective of a former college president (of Indiana University) that delineates and analyzes key issues currently debated in higher education regarding the relationship between research, teaching, and service. Chapter 1, "Lessons Learned," profiles five most significant mentors and teachers who taught that one person, even in a large institution, by helping others who help others in their turn, can make a lasting contribution. Chapter 2, "Great Teachers and Teaching," examines what makes a great teacher, describes seven key qualities, argues for the importance of creative intellectual connections, discusses teaching and general education, and explores teaching values. Chapter 3, "Research is Not a Dirty Word," explores the nature of research and its links to teaching from a number of perspectives. Chapter 4, "The University Serving the Community," explores the role of service in higher education making the argument that service experiences can be among the most valuable universities can offer their students. Chapter 5, "Real and Diversionary Challenges: Planning, Tenure, Athletics, and Other Riddles" looks at issues (minority presence, combating bigotry, and political correctness) that test the tension between the twin aims of excellence and access in higher education. Includes an index. (JB)

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